

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Thomas HAFKER et al

Appln. No. 10/595,202

Group Art Unit: NOT YET KNOWN

Confirmation No.: 4549

Examiner: NOT YET KNOWN

Filed: March 23, 2006

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCING (CIGARETTE) PACKS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

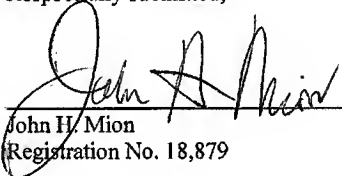
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/595,202

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a counterpart German Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the German Patent Office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 20, 2006

Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			<i>Complete if Known</i>		
			Application Number	10/595,202	
			Confirmation Number	4549	
			Filing Date	March 23, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Thomas HAFKER	
			Art Unit	NOT YET KNOWN	
Examiner Name	NOT YET KNOWN				
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q-93831

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translatio n ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		DE	199 26 7134	A1	12/21/2000	BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO	
		DE	198 27 412	A1	12/30/1999	FOCKE & CO. (GmbH & Co.)	
		DE	101 00 248	A1	7/11/2002	FOCKE & CO. (GmbH & Co.)	
		DE	699 00 225	T2	12/6/2001	MARCHESINI GROUP S.P.A.	
		EP	1 256 539	A2	11/13/2002	G.D. SOCIETA PER AZIONI	
		EP	1 125 843	A1	1/3/2001	FOCKE & CO. (GmbH & Co.)	
		EP	1 097 872	A1	5/9/2001	G.D. SPA	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translatio n ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.